IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of inhibiting OPN production, comprising administering an effective amount of a pyridazine derivative represented by the following formula (I) or a derivative salt thereof:

[Chemical Formula 2]

$$\begin{array}{c}
R^{1} \\
\downarrow \\
N \\
N \\
A - R^{3}
\end{array}$$
(I)

wherein:

 R^1 means a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atoms and C_{1-6} alkoxy groups;

 R^2 means a phenyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or C_{1-6} alkoxythio group and may also be substituted at one or two other positions thereof a like number of substituents selected from halogen atoms, C_{1-6} alkoxy groups and C_{1-6} alkoxythio groups;

R³ means a hydrogen atom; a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group; a halogenated C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl group; a phenyl, pyridyl or phenyloxy group which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups, carboxyl groups, C₂₋₇ alkoxycarbonyl groups, nitro groups, amino groups, C₁₋₆ alkylamino groups and C₁₋₆ alkylthio groups; a substituted or unsubstituted piperidino, piperidyl, piperazino or morpholino group; a substituted or unsubstituted aminocarbonyl group; a C₂₋₇ alkylcarbonyl groups; or a substituted or unsubstituted piperazinocarbonyl group;

A means a single bond, a C_{1-6} linear or branched alkylene group, or a C_{2-9} linear or branched alkenylene group; and

X means an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, with a proviso that A is a single bond when R^3 is a halogenated C_{1-6} alkyl group.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein in the formula (I),

 R^1 is a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a halogen atom selected from fluorine, chlorine or bromine or a C_{1-6} alkoxy group;

 R^2 is a phenyl group substituted at the 4-position thereof with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or a C_{1-6} alkylthio group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom or a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted by halogen atom or atoms; and

A is a C_{1-3} alkylene group or C_{3-4} alkenylene group.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein in the formula (I),

R¹ is a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a chlorine atom or a methoxy group;

R² is a phenyl group substituted at the 4-position thereof with a methoxy group or a methylthio group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom, phenyl group, 4-chlorophenyl group, 2-pyridyl group or 3pyridyl group; and

A is a methylene group, ethylene group or 2-propenylene group.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the active ingredient is 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2-(2-pyridylmethyl)-2H-pyridazine-3-thione, 5-(4-

chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2-(3-pyridylmethyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(4-chlorocinnamyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 2-benzyl-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 2-(4-chlorobenzyl)-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-(4-pyridinyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-ethyl-2H-pyridazin-3-one, or a salt thereof.

Claim 5 (Original): An OPN production inhibitor, comprising as an active ingredient a pyridazine derivative represented by the following formula (I) or a derivative thereof:

[Chemical Formula 3]

$$R^1$$
 N
 N
 $A-R^3$
 N
 A

wherein:

 R^1 means a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atoms and C_{1-6} alkoxy groups;

 R^2 means a phenyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a C_1 . $_6$ alkoxy group or C_{1-6} alkoxythio group and may also be substituted at one or two other positions thereof a like number of substituents selected from halogen atoms, C_{1-6} alkoxy groups and C_{1-6} alkoxythio groups;

 R^3 means a hydrogen atom; a C_{1-6} alkoxy group; a halogenated C_{1-6} alkyl group; a C_{3-6} cycloalkyl group; a phenyl, pyridyl or phenyloxy group which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atoms, C_{1-6} alkyl groups, C_{1-6} alkoxy groups, carboxyl groups, C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl groups, nitro groups, amino groups, C_{1-6} alkylamino groups and

 C_{1-6} alkylthio groups; a substituted or unsubstituted piperidino, piperidyl, piperazino or morpholino group; a substituted or unsubstituted aminocarbonyl group; a C_{2-7} alkylcarbonyl groups; or a substituted or unsubstituted piperazinocarbonyl group;

A means a single bond, a C_{1-6} linear or branched alkylene group, or a C_{2-9} linear or branched alkenylene group; and

X means an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, with a proviso that A is a single bond when R^3 is a halogenated C_{1-6} alkyl group.

Claim 6 (Original): The inhibitor of claim 5, wherein in the formula (I),

 R^1 is a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a halogen atom selected from fluorine, chlorine or bromine or a C_{1-6} alkoxy group;

 R^2 is a phenyl group substituted at the 4-position thereof with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or a C_{1-6} alkylthio group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom or a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted by halogen atom or atoms; and

A is a C_{1-3} alkylene group or C_{3-4} alkenylene group.

Claim 7 (Original): The inhibitor of claim 5, wherein in the formula (I),

R¹ is a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a chlorine atom or a methoxy group;

R² is a phenyl group substituted at the 4-position thereof with a methoxy group or a methylthio group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom, phenyl group, 4-chlorophenyl group, 2-pyridyl group or 3-pyridyl group; and

A is a methylene group, ethylene group or 2-propenylene group.

Claim 8 (Original): The inhibitor of claim 5, wherein said active ingredient is 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2-(2-pyridylmethyl)-2H-pyridazine-3-thione, 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2-(3-pyridylmethyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(4-chlorocinnamyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 2-benzyl-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 2-(4-chlorobenzyl)-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-(4-pyridinyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-ethyl-2H-pyridazin-3-one, or a salt thereof.

Claim 9 (Original): A preventive and therapeutic agent for a disease resulting from enhanced OPN production, comprising as an active ingredient a pyridazine derivative represented by the following formula (I) or a derivative thereof:

[Chemical Formula 4]

$$\begin{array}{c}
R^{1} \\
\downarrow \\
N \\
N \\
A - R^{3}
\end{array}$$
(I)

wherein:

 R^1 means a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atoms and C_{1-6} alkoxy groups;

 R^2 means a phenyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or C_{1-6} alkoxythio group and may also be substituted at one or two other positions thereof a like number of substituents selected from halogen atoms, C_{1-6} alkoxy groups and C_{1-6} alkoxythio groups;

R³ means a hydrogen atom; a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group; a halogenated C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl group; a phenyl, pyridyl or phenyloxy group which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups, carboxyl groups, C₂₋₇ alkoxycarbonyl groups, nitro groups, amino groups, C₁₋₆ alkylamino groups and C₁₋₆ alkylthio groups; a substituted or unsubstituted piperidino, piperidyl, piperazino or morpholino group; a substituted or unsubstituted aminocarbonyl group; a C₂₋₇ alkylcarbonyl groups; or a substituted or unsubstituted piperazinocarbonyl group;

A means a single bond, a C_{1-6} linear or branched alkylene group, or a C_{2-9} linear or branched alkenylene group; and

X means an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, with a proviso that A is a single bond when R^3 is a halogenated C_{1-6} alkyl group.

Claim 10 (Original): The preventive and therapeutic agent of claim 9, wherein in the formula (I),

 R^1 is a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a halogen atom selected from fluorine, chlorine or bromine or a C_{1-6} alkoxy group;

 R^2 is a phenyl group substituted at the 4-position thereof with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or a C_{1-6} alkylthio group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom or a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted by halogen atom or atoms; and

A is a C_{1-3} alkylene group or C_{3-4} alkenylene group.

Claim 11 (Original): The preventive and therapeutic agent of claim 9, wherein in the formula (I),

R¹ is a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a chlorine atom or a methoxy group;

R² is a phenyl group substituted at the 4-position thereof with a methoxy group or a methylthio group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom, phenyl group, 4-chlorophenyl group, 2-pyridyl group or 3-pyridyl group; and

A is a methylene group, ethylene group or 2-propenylene group.

Claim 12 (Original): The preventive and therapeutic agent of claim 9, wherein said active ingredient is 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2-(2-pyridylmethyl)-2H-pyridazine-3-thione, 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2-(3-pyridylmethyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(4-chlorocinnamyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 2-benzyl-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 2-(4-chlorobenzyl)-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-(4-pyridinyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-ethyl-2H-pyridazin-3-one, or a salt thereof.

Claims 13-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Original): Use of a pyridazine derivative represented by the following formula (I) or a derivative thereof for the production of a preventive and therapeutic agent for a disease resulting from enhanced OPN production:

[Chemical Formula 6]

$$\begin{array}{c}
R^1 \\
 & N \\
 &$$

wherein:

 R^1 means a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atoms and C_{1-6} alkoxy groups;

 R^2 means a phenyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or C_{1-6} alkoxythio group and may also be substituted at one or two other positions thereof a like number of substituents selected from halogen atoms, C_{1-6} alkoxy groups and C_{1-6} alkoxythio groups;

R³ means a hydrogen atom; a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group; a halogenated C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl group; a phenyl, pyridyl or phenyloxy group which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups, carboxyl groups, C₂₋₇ alkoxycarbonyl groups, nitro groups, amino groups, C₁₋₆ alkylamino groups and C₁₋₆ alkylthio groups; a substituted or unsubstituted piperidino, piperidyl, piperazino or morpholino group; a substituted or unsubstituted aminocarbonyl group; a C₂₋₇ alkylcarbonyl groups; or a substituted or unsubstituted piperazinocarbonyl group;

A means a single bond, a C_{1-6} linear or branched alkylene group, or a C_{2-9} linear or branched alkenylene group; and

X means an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, with a proviso that A is a single bond when R^3 is a halogenated C_{1-6} alkyl group.

Claim 18 (Original): Use of claim 17, wherein in the formula (I),

 R^1 is a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a halogen atom selected from fluorine, chlorine or bromine or a C_{1-6} alkoxy group;

 R^2 is a phenyl group substituted at the 4-position thereof with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or a C_{1-6} alkylthio group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom or a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted by halogen atom or atoms; and

A is a C_{1-3} alkylene group or C_{3-4} alkenylene group.

Claim 19 (Original): Use of claim 17, wherein in the formula (I),

R¹ is a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a chlorine atom or a methoxy group;

R² is a phenyl group substituted at the 4-position thereof with a methoxy group or a methylthio group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom, phenyl group, 4-chlorophenyl group, 2-pyridyl group or 3-pyridyl group; and

A is a methylene group, ethylene group or 2-propenylene group.

Claim 20 (Original): Use of claim 17, wherein the active ingredient is 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2-(2-pyridylmethyl)-2H-pyridazine-3-thione, 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2-(3-pyridylmethyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(4-chlorocinnamyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 2-benzyl-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 2-(4-chlorobenzyl)-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-(4-pyridinyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-ethyl-2H-pyridazin-3-one, or a salt thereof.

Claim 21 (Original): An OPN production inhibitor composition comprising a pyridazine derivative represented by the following formula (I) or a derivative thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier:

[Chemical Formula 7]

$$\begin{array}{c}
R^{1} \\
\downarrow \\
N \\
N \\
A - R^{3}
\end{array}$$
(I)

wherein:

 R^1 means a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atoms and C_{1-6} alkoxy groups;

 R^2 means a phenyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or C_{1-6} alkoxythio group and may also be substituted at one or two other positions thereof a like number of substituents selected from halogen atoms, C_{1-6} alkoxy groups and C_{1-6} alkoxythio groups;

R³ means a hydrogen atom; a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group; a halogenated C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl group; a phenyl, pyridyl or phenyloxy group which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups, carboxyl groups, C₂₋₇ alkoxycarbonyl groups, nitro groups, amino groups, C₁₋₆ alkylamino groups and C₁₋₆ alkylthio groups; a substituted or unsubstituted piperidino, piperidyl, piperazino or morpholino group; a substituted or unsubstituted aminocarbonyl group; a C₂₋₇ alkylcarbonyl groups; or a substituted or unsubstituted piperazinocarbonyl group;

A means a single bond, a C_{1-6} linear or branched alkylene group, or a C_{2-9} linear or branched alkenylene group; and

X means an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, with a proviso that A is a single bond when R^3 is a halogenated C_{1-6} alkyl group.

Claim 22 (Original): The composition of claim 21, wherein in the formula (I),

 R^1 is a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a halogen atom selected from fluorine, chlorine or bromine or a C_{1-6} alkoxy group;

 R^2 is a phenyl group substituted at the 4-position thereof with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or a C_{1-6} alkylthio group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom or a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted by halogen atom or atoms; and

A is a C_{1-3} alkylene group or C_{3-4} alkenylene group.

Claim 23 (Original): The composition of claim 21, wherein in the formula (I),

R¹ is a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a chlorine atom or a methoxy group;

R² is a phenyl group substituted at the 4-position thereof with a methoxy group or a methylthio group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom, phenyl group, 4-chlorophenyl group, 2-pyridyl group or 3pyridyl group; and

A is a methylene group, ethylene group or 2-propenylene group.

Claim 24 (Original): The composition of claim 21, wherein the active ingredient is 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2-(2-pyridylmethyl)-2H-pyridazine-3-thione, 5-

(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2-(3-pyridylmethyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(4-chlorocinnamyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 2-benzyl-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 2-(4-chlorobenzyl)-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-(4-pyridinyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-ethyl-2H-pyridazin-3-one, or a salt thereof.

Claim 25 (Original): A preventive and therapeutic agent composition for a disease resulting from enhanced OPN production, comprising a pyridazine derivative represented by the following formula (I) or a derivative thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier:

[Chemical Formula 8]

$$\begin{array}{c}
R^{1} \\
\downarrow \\
N \\
N \\
A - R^{3}
\end{array}$$
(I)

wherein:

 R^1 means a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atoms and C_{1-6} alkoxy groups;

 R^2 means a phenyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or C_{1-6} alkoxythio group and may also be substituted at one or two other positions thereof a like number of substituents selected from halogen atoms, C_{1-6} alkoxy groups and C_{1-6} alkoxythio groups;

 R^3 means a hydrogen atom; a C_{1-6} alkoxy group; a halogenated C_{1-6} alkyl group; a C_{3-6} cycloalkyl group; a phenyl, pyridyl or phenyloxy group which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atoms, C_{1-6} alkyl groups, C_{1-6} alkoxy groups, carboxyl

groups, C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl groups, nitro groups, amino groups, C_{1-6} alkylamino groups and C_{1-6} alkylthio groups; a substituted or unsubstituted piperidino, piperidyl, piperazino or morpholino group; a substituted or unsubstituted aminocarbonyl group; a C_{2-7} alkylcarbonyl groups; or a substituted or unsubstituted piperazinocarbonyl group;

A means a single bond, a C_{1-6} linear or branched alkylene group, or a C_{2-9} linear or branched alkenylene group; and

X means an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, with a proviso that A is a single bond when R^3 is a halogenated C_{1-6} alkyl group.

Claim 26 (Original): The composition of claim 25, wherein in the formula (I),

 R^1 is a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a halogen atom selected from fluorine, chlorine or bromine or a C_{1-6} alkoxy group;

 R^2 is a phenyl group substituted at the 4-position thereof with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or a C_{1-6} alkylthio group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom or a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted by halogen atom or atoms; and

A is a C_{1-3} alkylene group or C_{3-4} alkenylene group.

Claim 27 (Original): The composition of claim 25, wherein in the formula (I),

R¹ is a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a chlorine atom or a methoxy group;

R² is a phenyl group substituted at the 4-position thereof with a methoxy group or a methylthio group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom, phenyl group, 4-chlorophenyl group, 2-pyridyl group or 3-pyridyl group; and

A is a methylene group, ethylene group or 2-propenylene group.

Claim 28 (Original): The composition of claim 25, wherein the active ingredient is 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2-(2-pyridylmethyl)-2H-pyridazine-3-thione, 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2-(3-pyridylmethyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(4-chlorocinnamyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 2-benzyl-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 2-(4-chlorobenzyl)-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-(4-pyridinyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-ethyl-2H-pyridazin-3-one, or a salt thereof.

Claim 29 (Original): A therapeutic method of a disease resulting from enhanced OPN production, comprising administering an effective amount of a pyridazine derivative represented by the following formula (I) or a salt thereof:

[Chemical Formula 9]

$$\begin{array}{c}
R^{1} \\
\downarrow \\
N \\
N \\
A - R^{3}
\end{array}$$
(I)

wherein:

 R^1 means a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atoms and C_{1-6} alkoxy groups;

 R^2 means a phenyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or C_{1-6} alkoxythio group and may also be substituted at one or two other

positions thereof a like number of substituents selected from halogen atoms, C_{1-6} alkoxy groups and C_{1-6} alkoxythio groups;

R³ means a hydrogen atom; a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group; a halogenated C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl group; a phenyl, pyridyl or phenyloxy group which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups, carboxyl groups, C₂₋₇ alkoxycarbonyl groups, nitro groups, amino groups, C₁₋₆ alkylamino groups and C₁₋₆ alkylthio groups; a substituted or unsubstituted piperidino, piperidyl, piperazino or morpholino group; a substituted or unsubstituted aminocarbonyl group; a C₂₋₇ alkylcarbonyl groups; or a substituted or unsubstituted piperazinocarbonyl group;

A means a single bond, a C_{1-6} linear or branched alkylene group, or a C_{2-9} linear or branched alkenylene group; and

X means an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, with a proviso that A is a single bond when R^3 is a halogenated C_{1-6} alkyl group.

Claim 30 (Original): The method of claim 29, wherein in the formula (I),

R¹ is a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a halogen atom selected from fluorine, chlorine or bromine or a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group;

 R^2 is a phenyl group substituted at the 4-position thereof with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or a C_{1-6} alkylthio group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom or a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted by halogen atom or atoms; and

A is a C_{1-3} alkylene group or C_{3-4} alkenylene group.

Claim 31 (Original): The method of claim 29, wherein in the formula (I),

R¹ is a phenyl or pyridyl group which may be substituted at the 4-position thereof with a chlorine atom or a methoxy group;

R² is a phenyl group substituted at the 4-position thereof with a methoxy group or a methylthio group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom, phenyl group, 4-chlorophenyl group, 2-pyridyl group or 3-pyridyl group; and

A is a methylene group, ethylene group or 2-propenylene group.

Claim 32 (Original): The method of claim 29, wherein the active ingredient is 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2-(2-pyridylmethyl)-2H-pyridazine-3-thione, 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2-(3-pyridylmethyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(4-chlorocinnamyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 2-benzyl-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 2-(4-chlorobenzyl)-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-(4-pyridinyl)-2H-pyridazin-3-one, 5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-ethyl-2H-pyridazin-3-one, or a salt thereof.

Claim 33 (Original): The method of claim 29, wherein said disease resulting from said enhanced OPN production is post-PTCA restenosis, a kidney disease, tuberculosis, sarcoidosis, cirrhosis, colorectal cancer, ovarian cancer, prostatic cancer, breast cancer, urinary calculus or myelomatous tumor.

Claim 34 (Original): The method of claim 29, wherein said disease resulting from said enhanced OPN production is multiple myeloma.